MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): The Division Officer granted the clerk an extension of nine months between 1109 –1110.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Am I then to understand that the question depends upon the favour of the Division Officers?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): No.

PRESIDENT: Mr. S. J. Nair, next question, please.

Minor Irrigation in the Nedumangad taluk.

12. *MR. S. J. NAIR. (*Nedumangad*): With reference to the answer to question No. 36 (*b*), given on the 14th November 1935 in the Sri Mulam Assembly, *re* a pakuthi-war statement of *chiras*, tanks, etc., that require to be improved in the Nedumangad taluk, which was under print, will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the list would be placed on the table;

(*b*) what works in the list were executed formerly;

(*c*) what works are under execution;

(*d*) why irrigation works are not undertaken in the Nedumangad taluk; and

(*e*) whether the "Parandottukarathu *chira*" in the Kulathummel *pakuthi*, and the "Kulavikarathu *chira*" in the Nedumangad town, which were restored formerly, remain completely useless for paddy cultivation?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*):

(*a*) The list is placed on the table of the Assembly Secretary for reference.

(*b*) (i) Restoring Parandottukonathu *chira* in Kulathummel pakuthi.

(ii) Restoring Kulavikonathu *chira* in Nedumangad town,

(*c*) None at present.

(*d*) As many of the tanks mentioned in the list, come under petty irrigation, they have to be improved by the ryots as per the Irrigation Regulation. Regarding Minor Irrigation works included in it, no requisitions for the improvements of any particular tank have been made by the ryots.

(*e*) No; but some additional works are found necessary and these are being investigated and estimated for. The correct names of the tanks are Parandottukonathu *chira* and Kulavikonathu *chiru*.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the Government whether the Chief Engineer has inspected these two *chiras* and has come to the conclusion that these two *chiras* are not useless?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads Buildings and Irrigation*): The report of the Division Officer concerned was considered.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know when the Division Officer inspected these two *chiras*?

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MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings, and Irrigation*) : I cannot say the date.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know from the Government whether the Government are aware that the Revenue Commissioner has inspected "Parandottukarathu *chira*" and that he has reported that that *chira* is useless for paddy cultivation ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : I have no information.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know whether the Government are aware that the tax on the "Parandottukarathu *chira*" is now being stopped on account of its uselessness.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings, and Irrigation*) : The irrigation tax i being stopped in the case of Kulavikonathu *chira*.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : What is the reason for stopping it?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : The Government are enquiring into the matter.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know whether it has been stopped as the result of the uselessness of the *chira* ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : I have already replied to that question.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know whether Government are aware that no work of minor irrigation has been started in Nedumangad taluk ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : I claim notice.

PRESIDENT : The official member demands time to answer the question.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : Sir, when I put the question plainly he evades the answer. I am explaining —

PRESIDENT : Order, order. That personal explanation is required from the officer and not from you.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : I have not completed the supplementary questions. With regard to answer (*e*), may I know whether the Governmet are aware that the people of Nedumangad have submitted petitions praying for improvement of the *chiras* in their localities.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : Many of the tanks in Nedumangad come under petty irrigation and if the honourable member would refer to the Regulation he will see that most of the tanks should be repaired by the ryots concerned. Ryots should petition for other tanks to be repaired for which they have to contribute half the cost.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know whether any work with regard to the improvement of the major tanks has been taken up by Government.

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MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): No petition to that effect has been received by me.

PRESIDENT: Next question, Mr. S. J. Nair?

Toll-gates in the Nedumangad taluk.

13. *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that the buses and other vehicles that come from Vamanapuram in the Nedumangad taluk and go to the Trivandrum Town are compelled to pay two separate P. W. D. toll-gate fees;

(*b*) the distance of the Aayoor main gate and its sub-gate at Venjaramood;

(*c*) on what principle sub-gates to main P. W. D. gates are opened;

(*d*) whether the public of the Nedumangad taluk have not submitted memorials to the Government and the Chief Engineer, P. W. D. pointing out the necessity of removing the P. W. D. sub-gate at Venjaramood; and

(*e*) if the answer to part (*d*) is in the affirmative, what action the Government and the Chief Engineer have taken?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*):

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) About 17 miles.

(*c*) (i) To tap the untaxed shuttle service buses or other vehicles which use a good portion of the road between two important stations or two toll-gates and which thereby tend to diminish the number of through service, and

(ii) to prevent the evation of toll by passing off the toll gate.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) The matter was considered and it was decided that the removal was not necessary.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the Government whether it is not possible by removing the toll-gate from Venjaramood in M. C. road where it is situated now to two miles beyond that place to the north of the M. C. road to tax the untaxed shuttle service from Vamanapuram to Trivandrum *via* Nedumangad at Nedumangad P. W. D, Toll Gate.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): I do not think so.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know the route from which that bus can avoid the payment of tax to Nedumangad?

MR. G B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): I shall show that to the honourable member if he will see me in my office.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): I put the question to the Government, feeling certain that there is absolutely no road from which the bus can avoid payment of tax.

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